



Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C. 20535

September 27, 2023

MR. NOAH SCHEER



FOIPA Request No.: 1576100-000  
Subject: LOVETT, ROBERT MORSS

Dear Mr. Scheer:

The FBI has completed its review of records subject to the Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA) that are responsive to your request. The enclosed documents were reviewed under the FOIPA, Title 5, United States Code, Section 552/552a. Below you will find check boxes under the appropriate statute headings which indicate the types of exemptions asserted to protect information which is exempt from disclosure. The appropriate exemptions are noted on the enclosed pages next to redacted information. In addition, a deleted page information sheet was inserted to indicate where pages were withheld entirely and identify which exemptions were applied. The checked exemption boxes used to withhold information are further explained in the enclosed Explanation of Exemptions.

**Section 552**

<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(1)	<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(A)
<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(2)	<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(B)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(3)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(C)
<u>50 U.S.C. § 3024(i)(1)</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(D)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(E)
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**Section 552a**

<input type="checkbox"/> (d)(5)
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8 pages were reviewed and 5 pages are being released.

Please see the paragraphs below for relevant information specific to your request as well as the enclosed FBI FOIPA Addendum for standard responses applicable to all requests.

Based on the information you provided, we conducted a main and reference entity record search of the Central Records System (CRS) per our standard search policy. For more information about records searches and the standard search policy, see the enclosed FBI FOIPA Addendum General Information Section.

This is the **final release** of information responsive to your FOIPA request. This material is being provided to you at no charge.

Enclosed are cross-references that are identifiable with the subject of your request. Cross-references are defined as mentions of the subject of your request in files to other individuals, organizations, events, or activities. In processing the cross-references, the pages considered for possible release included only those pages that mention the subject of your request and any additional pages showing the context in which the subject of your request was mentioned.

Duplicate copies of the same document were not processed.

Please refer to the enclosed FBI FOIPA Addendum for additional standard responses applicable to your request. **“Part 1”** of the Addendum includes standard responses that apply to all requests. **“Part 2”** includes additional standard responses that apply to all requests for records about yourself or any third party individuals. **“Part 3”** includes general information about FBI records that you may find useful. Also enclosed is our Explanation of Exemptions.

Additional information about the FOIPA can be found at [www.fbi.gov/foia](http://www.fbi.gov/foia). Should you have questions regarding your request, please feel free to contact [foipaquestions@fbi.gov](mailto:foipaquestions@fbi.gov). Please reference the FOIPA Request number listed above in all correspondence concerning your request.

If you are not satisfied with the Federal Bureau of Investigation's determination in response to this request, you may administratively appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (OIP), United States Department of Justice, 441 G Street, NW, 6th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20530, or you may submit an appeal through OIP's FOIA STAR portal by creating an account following the instructions on OIP's website:

<https://www.justice.gov/oip/submit-and-track-request-or-appeal>. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within ninety (90) days of the date of my response to your request. If you submit your appeal by mail, both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so it may be easily identified.

You may seek dispute resolution services by emailing the FBI's FOIA Public Liaison at [foipaquestions@fbi.gov](mailto:foipaquestions@fbi.gov). The subject heading should clearly state "Dispute Resolution Services." Please also cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so it may be easily identified. You may also contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS). The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov); telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

Sincerely,



Michael G. Seidel  
Section Chief  
Record/Information Dissemination Section  
Information Management Division

Enclosures

## FBI FOIPA Addendum

As referenced in our letter responding to your Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA) request, the FBI FOIPA Addendum provides information applicable to your request. Part 1 of the Addendum includes standard responses that apply to all requests. Part 2 includes standard responses that apply to requests for records about individuals to the extent your request seeks the listed information. Part 3 includes general information about FBI records, searches, and programs.

### Part 1: The standard responses below apply to all requests:

- (i) **5 U.S.C. § 552(c).** Congress excluded three categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIPA [5 U.S.C. § 552(c)]. FBI responses are limited to those records subject to the requirements of the FOIPA. Additional information about the FBI and the FOIPA can be found on the [www.fbi.gov/foia](http://www.fbi.gov/foia) website.
- (ii) **Intelligence Records.** To the extent your request seeks records of intelligence sources, methods, or activities, the FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of records pursuant to FOIA exemptions (b)(1), (b)(3), and as applicable to requests for records about individuals, PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(1), (b)(3), and (j)(2)]. The mere acknowledgment of the existence or nonexistence of such records is itself a classified fact protected by FOIA exemption (b)(1) and/or would reveal intelligence sources, methods, or activities protected by exemption (b)(3) [50 USC § 3024(i)(1)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that any such records do or do not exist.

### Part 2: The standard responses below apply to all requests for records on individuals:

- (i) **Requests for Records about any Individual—Watch Lists.** The FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of any individual's name on a watch list pursuant to FOIA exemption (b)(7)(E) and PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(7)(E), (j)(2)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that watch list records do or do not exist.
- (ii) **Requests for Records about any Individual—Witness Security Program Records.** The FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of records which could identify any participant in the Witness Security Program pursuant to FOIA exemption (b)(3) and PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(3), 18 U.S.C. 3521, and (j)(2)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that such records do or do not exist.
- (iii) **Requests for Confidential Informant Records.** The FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of confidential informant records pursuant to FOIA exemptions (b)(7)(D), (b)(7)(E), and (b)(7)(F) [5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(7)(D), (b)(7)(E), and (b)(7)(F)] and Privacy Act exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. § 552a (j)(2)]. The mere acknowledgment of the existence or nonexistence of such records would reveal confidential informant identities and information, expose law enforcement techniques, and endanger the life or physical safety of individuals. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that such records do or do not exist.

### Part 3: General Information:

- (i) **Record Searches and Standard Search Policy.** The Record/Information Dissemination Section (RIDS) searches for reasonably described records by searching systems, such as the Central Records System (CRS), or locations where responsive records would reasonably be found. The CRS is an extensive system of records consisting of applicant, investigative, intelligence, personnel, administrative, and general files compiled by the FBI per its law enforcement, intelligence, and administrative functions. The CRS spans the entire FBI organization, comprising records of FBI Headquarters, FBI Field Offices, and FBI Legal Attaché Offices (Legats) worldwide; Electronic Surveillance (ELSUR) records are included in the CRS. The standard search policy is a search for main entity records in the CRS. Unless specifically requested, a standard search does not include a search for reference entity records, administrative records of previous FOIPA requests, or civil litigation files.
  - a. *Main Entity Records* – created for individuals or non-individuals who are the subjects or the focus of an investigation
  - b. *Reference Entity Records* – created for individuals or non-individuals who are associated with a case but are not known subjects or the focus of an investigation
- (ii) **FBI Records.** Founded in 1908, the FBI carries out a dual law enforcement and national security mission. As part of this dual mission, the FBI creates and maintains records on various subjects; however, the FBI does not maintain records on every person, subject, or entity.
- (iii) **Foreseeable Harm Standard.** As amended in 2016, the Freedom of Information Act provides that a federal agency may withhold responsive records only if: (1) the agency reasonably foresees that disclosure would harm an interest protected by one of the nine exemptions that FOIA enumerates, or (2) disclosure is prohibited by law (5 United States Code, Section 552(a)(8)(A)(i)). The FBI considers this foreseeable harm standard in the processing of its requests.
- (iv) **Requests for Criminal History Records or Rap Sheets.** The Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division provides Identity History Summary Checks – often referred to as a criminal history record or rap sheet. These criminal history records are not the same as material in an investigative “FBI file.” An Identity History Summary Check is a listing of information taken from fingerprint cards and documents submitted to the FBI in connection with arrests, federal employment, naturalization, or military service. For a fee, individuals can request a copy of their Identity History Summary Check. Forms and directions can be accessed at [www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/identity-history-summary-checks](http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/identity-history-summary-checks). Additionally, requests can be submitted electronically at [www.edo.cjis.gov](http://www.edo.cjis.gov). For additional information, please contact CJIS directly at (304) 625-5590.

## EXPLANATION OF EXEMPTIONS

### **SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552**

- (b)(1) (A) specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and (B) are in fact properly classified to such Executive order;
- (b)(2) related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency;
- (b)(3) specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than section 552b of this title), provided that such statute (A) requires that the matters be withheld from the public in such a manner as to leave no discretion on issue, or (B) establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld;
- (b)(4) trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential;
- (b)(5) inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency;
- (b)(6) personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
- (b)(7) records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, but only to the extent that the production of such law enforcement records or information ( A ) could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings, ( B ) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication, ( C ) could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, ( D ) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of confidential source, including a State, local, or foreign agency or authority or any private institution which furnished information on a confidential basis, and, in the case of record or information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation, or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source, ( E ) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law, or ( F ) could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual;
- (b)(8) contained in or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, on behalf of, or for the use of an agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions; or
- (b)(9) geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

### **SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552a**

- (d)(5) information compiled in reasonable anticipation of a civil action proceeding;
- (j)(2) material reporting investigative efforts pertaining to the enforcement of criminal law including efforts to prevent, control, or reduce crime or apprehend criminals;
- (k)(1) information which is currently and properly classified pursuant to an Executive order in the interest of the national defense or foreign policy, for example, information involving intelligence sources or methods;
- (k)(2) investigatory material compiled for law enforcement purposes, other than criminal, which did not result in loss of a right, benefit or privilege under Federal programs, or which would identify a source who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(3) material maintained in connection with providing protective services to the President of the United States or any other individual pursuant to the authority of Title 18, United States Code, Section 3056;
- (k)(4) required by statute to be maintained and used solely as statistical records;
- (k)(5) investigatory material compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for Federal civilian employment or for access to classified information, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(6) testing or examination material used to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in Federal Government service the release of which would compromise the testing or examination process;
- (k)(7) material used to determine potential for promotion in the armed services, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished the material pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence.

PAGE THREE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Transmit the following Teletype message to:

FINAL SPEAKER OF THE EVENING AND TOLD THE AUDIENCE THAT THEY MUST FIGHT FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM AND AGAINST THE SMITH ACT. ROBESON SENT GREETINGS TO THE SOVIET PEOPLE AND DECLARED THAT THE SOVIET REVOLUTION HAD CREATED A CHAIN REACTION THROUGHOUT THE WORLD WHICH BROUGHT ABOUT THE FREEDOM AND DIGNITY OF MAN. AFTER HIS SPEECH, ROBESON SANG SONGS IN RUSSIAN, ENGLISH, POLISH, AND THE YIDDISH LANGUAGE. ACCORDING TO INFORMANT, A COLLECTION WAS MADE WHICH RESULTED IN THE COLLECTION OF ABOUT \$1500. INFORMANT STATED THAT APPROXIMATELY 800 PEOPLE WERE PRESENT AND NOTED THAT NO PROPAGANDA BANNERS WERE DISPLAYED IN THE HALL.

[REDACTED] ALSO ATTENDED THIS MEETING AND ADVISED THAT DR. JOHN A. KINGSBURY ACTED AS CHAIRMAN, AND THAT APPROXIMATELY 1,000 PERSONS WERE IN ATTENDANCE. [REDACTED] ADVISED THAT THE FIRST

SPEAKER OF THE EVENING WAS THE REV. WILLIAM HOWARD MELISH, WHO CALLED FOR PEACEFUL NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE US AND THE USSR. MELISH WAS FOLLOWED BY ROBERT MORSS LOVETT, WHO, IN HIS SPEECH, DESCRIBED THE SOCIAL ASPECTS OF THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION AND STATED THAT THE REVOLUTION REPRESENTED THE GREATEST SOCIAL EXPERIMENT IN THE WORLD. DR. W. E. B. DU BOIS WAS THE NEXT SPEAKER AND STATED THAT, AFTER THE BOLSHEVIK REVOLUTION, THE SOVIET UNION WAS UNJUSTLY ATTACKED AND TRIED TO FIND FRIENDS AMONG OTHER

b7D

Approved:

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

AIR-TEL  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

NEW YORK, NY 11/13/53

Transmit the following Teletype message to: BUREAU

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF AMERICAN SOVIET FRIENDSHIP, IS-C; INTERNAL  
SECURITY ACT OF 1950. THE NCASF, ON NOVEMBER 12, 1953, AT THE  
CARNIVAL ROOM OF THE HOTEL CAPITOL, NYC, HELD ITS ANNUAL RALLY  
IN HONOR OF THE 36TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SOVIET UNION AND THE  
20TH ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICAN SOVIET DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS.

[REDACTED] ATTENDED THIS MEETING, AND, DURING HIS ATTENDANCE, b7D  
DR. JOHN A. KINGSBURY, NATIONAL CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL ACTED  
AS CHAIRMAN, AND LEON STRAUS, JESSICA SMITH, AND PAUL ROBESON  
SPOKE. ACCORDING TO INFORMANT, STRAUS, IN HIS SPEECH, ASKED  
THE AUDIENCE TO BEAR WITH HIM WHILE HE DESCRIBED A SPEECH HE  
WOULD MAKE IN 1960. INFORMANT STATED THAT STRAUS THEN DESCRIBED  
COMING EVENTS WHICH HE FORESAW AS A RESULT OF PRESENT-DAY CON-  
DITIONS. STRAUS STATED THAT HE FORESAW THE MOST INFAMOUS SENATOR  
MC CARTHY TAKING OVER, AND, WITH HIS TAKING OVER, THERE WOULD BE  
ESTABLISHED MORE PRISONS AND MORE FASCISM, AND THAT SUCH A  
GOVERNMENT BY MC CARTHYITES WOULD EVENTUALLY RESULT IN THE  
IMPRISONMENT OF A FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AS A "RED".  
STRAUS SAID THAT, AS A RESULT OF THIS FASCISTIC GOVERNMENT BY  
MC CARTHYITES, THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WOULD RISE UP AGAINST HIM AND

RECORDED - 115 100-146965-1802  
BUREAU (100-146964) (RM) INDEXED - 115  
1 - [REDACTED]

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FOI/PA

DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

FOI/PA# 1576100-000

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Page 11 ~ Duplicate;

Page 16 ~ Duplicate;

Page 17 ~ Duplicate;

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CG 122-286

each speech made at the dinner was reminiscent of some little thing done by LOVETT and his work with the MCPFB. According to the informant, Reverend WILLIAM T. BAIRD was introduced ~~as~~ as the new chairman of the MCPFB and told of his past connections with LOVETT. Other speakers, according to the informant, condemned the Mc Carran Act and the role of the Government informers.

Other Information Pertaining to SLATER

T-4

This informant on September 19, 1955, made available a mimeographed letter dated September 16, 1955, from "EDMUND HATFIELD, 7 South Dearborn Street, Room 1631, Chicago 3, Illinois, AN 3-0010", which was marked, "For Immediate Release." This letter stated, "A group of 29 Chicago area citizens issued a Constitution Day Statement today, commending the Hennings Committee for its project to survey violations of the Bill of Rights and other Amendments."

According to the letter, the statement warned against the trend towards fixing "guilt by association", and cited a number of national cases which threaten Constitutional liberties. Among the threats to civil liberties, the statement mentioned the veto message of former President TRUMAN, characterizing the Mc Carran Act as "a clear and present danger to our institutions," and pointed out that 12 organizations, including a labor union, have been cited. The case of CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT, "the first person to be convicted for mere membership under the Smith Act", was given as an example of prosecution based on "guilt by association". The name "THOMAS L. SLATER, Secretary-Treasurer, Carpenter's Union, Local No. 1," is listed as one of the signers.

T-5  
T-5, who has furnished reliable information in the past, on April 6, 1954, advised that ED HATFIELD, who was active in the National Lawyers Guild, in the opinion of the informant, was also a Communist Party member at that time. T-5 stated that while he had no specific proof of HATFIELD'S Communist Party membership, he had observed HATFIELD with other

CG 122-286

[redacted]

b7D

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted] Midwest Committee for Protection of Foreign

The informant on March 21, 1956, advised that [redacted] 302P

b7D

[redacted] ROBERT MORSS LOVETT, the former chairman of the  
MCPFB, [redacted]

[redacted]

T-4, who currently is furnishing information to the FBI concerning CP front groups and who has furnished reliable information in the past

This informant on March 20, 1956, advised that THOMAS SLATER was seated at the speaker's table at the dinner in honor of ROBERT MORSS LOVETT held during the evening of March 18, 1956, at the Midwest Hotel, Chicago, Illinois. Informant advised that

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FORM NO. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT CHICAGO

REPORT MADE AT CHICAGO	DATE WHEN MADE 8-17-56	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 7/30, 31; 8/3, 7-10/56	REPORT MADE BY EHW/hms EDWARD H. WACHHOLZ
TITLE THOMAS L. SLATER		CHARACTER OF CASE LABOR-MANAGEMENT RELA- TIONS ACT OF 1947 (SECURITY MATTER)	

## SYNOPSIS OF FACTS

### I. NARRATIVE OF OFFENSE AND/OR COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 159(H), TITLE 29, UNITED STATES CODE (LMRA - 47)

Mr. RUSSELL R. MILLER  
Election Officer and Affidavit Compliance Chief  
Division of Operations of the General Council  
National Labor Relations Board  
Washington, D.C.

10-4  
2 - Jkt. fee.  
AGENCY  
REQ. REC'D.  
DATE FORM. 8-27-56  
HOW FORM  
BY D. MAT-716

Mr. MILLER can produce and testify to the following documents relating to the compliance of THOMAS L. SLATER with Section 159(H), Title 29, United States Code, Labor Management Relations Act of 1947.

THOMAS L. SLATER as an officer of Local No. 1, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, executed "Affidavit of Non-Communist Union Officer" (NLRB form No. 1081) as required by Title 29, United States Code, Section 159(H), of the Labor Management Relations Act, 1947.

The following columns list the dates the affidavits were executed, the dates received by NLRB, the position held by SLATER, and his home address at the time of the execution:

ENCLOSURE

APPROVED AND FORWARDED JCM/9		SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
107 COPIES OF THIS REPORT 4 Bureau (122-1780) (Registered) 3 Chicago (122-286)			122-1280-4 RECORDED - 9 INDEXED - 96 EX - 110	
			11 AUG 20 1956	

PROPERTY OF FBI—This report is loaned to you by the FBI, and neither it nor its contents are to be distributed outside the agency to which loaned.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~